



PATENT Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 02481.1693

Group Art Unit: 1653.

Examiner: H. Schnizer

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HABERMANN et al.

Application No.: 09/664,328

Filed: September 18, 2000

For: SIGNAL SEQUENCES FOR

For: SIGNAL SEQUENCES FOR PREPARING LEU-HIRUDIN BY SECRETION BY E. COLINTO THE CULTURE MEDIUM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

APR 0 9 2003
TECH CENTER 1600/29

## **AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the Final Office Action of January 7, 2003, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 to 5 and 10 to 14, and amend claims 6, 8 and 9 as follows:

(1

Claim 6. (Twice Amended) A process for selecting a [suitable] signal peptide for secretory expression of a desired <u>hirudin or hirudin derivativ</u> protein in *E. coli*, comprising:

(a) <u>expressing</u> [expression] in *E. coli* in culture medium, hirudin or a hirudin derivative which has antithrombotic activity, and which has a defined amino